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Agriculture

Forest  
Service

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Arizona Zone Office

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Subject: 2001 Insect and Disease Aerial Detection Surveys, Grand Canyon National Park

To: Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park

The annual forest insect and disease aerial detection survey was conducted over the Grand Canyon National Park on July 27, 2001, by USDA Forest Service Forest Health observers. Following is a summary of the results of this survey.

Overall, forest insect and disease-related tree mortality is low in the park. Mountain pine beetle-related tree mortality that was mapped in previous seasons has now subsided and is confined to isolated pockets of the Walhalla Glades area (23 acres total). There was significant defoliation of aspens on the north rim of the park and the Kaibab National Forest, 912 acres of which occurred on the park. Additionally, areas of spruce on the Kaibab National Forest on the north rim adjacent to the park are experiencing defoliation of variable degrees from the Western spruce budworm. Some true fir mortality was mapped along the canyon edges on the north side.

Mortality from tree scorch and possibly bark beetles was recorded around numerous fires in the park. Current mortality around and in association with these fires was extensive. These areas will be monitored closely in the 2002 aerial surveys for the possibility of associated bark beetle activity.

Electronic format copies of the spatial data will be sent to park personnel for any projects to which they may be relevant. Also, upon availability, hard copy maps depicting conditions detected will be sent to appropriate personnel. Please advise park personnel via this letter of this availability.

Should you desire a copy of the electronic formatted data, or have any questions regarding this survey, or need additional information, please feel free to contact Bobbe Fitzgibbon at (928) 556 2072, email: [bfitzgibbon@fs.fed.us](mailto:bfitzgibbon@fs.fed.us) or Steve Dudley at (928) 556-2071 email: [sdudlew@fs.fed.us](mailto:sdudlew@fs.fed.us).

/s/ John Anhold  
JOHN ANHOLD  
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